



BOWLAND RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1947.

Chairman of the Council : T. WALKER, Esq.

Chairman, Public Health Committee : W. Procter, Esq.

Vice-Chairman, Public Health Committee : R. Williamson, Esq.

COUNCILLORS.

Parish.	Councillor.
Bashall Eaves and Great Mitton	R. Williamson.
Bolton-by-Bowland... ..	Major M. N. Wright, J.P.
Bowland Forest, Higher Division... ..	J. W. Parkinson.
Bowland Forest, Lower Division	W. Haslewood.
West Bradford... ..	T. H. Aspin.
Easington... ..	J. Eastwood.
Gisburn and Horton	L. Haseltine.
Gisburn Forest	T. Robinson.
Grindleton... ..	T. Holgate.
Newton	A. A. Fitch.
Paythorne and Newsholme	A. Redman.
Rimington and Middop... ..	H. R. Hartley.
Sawley	W. Procter.
Slaidburn	T. Walker.
Waddington	W. W. Dugdale.

Clerk to the Council : J. M. ARROWSMITH, Esq.

To the Chairman and Members of the District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report drawn up under the headings requested by the Ministry of Health.

In presenting my final report I must again thank you for the unfailing kindness, courtesy and consideration you have extended to me over the past sixteen years.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

J. H. FAIRWEATHER.

Colborne House,
Clitheroe.

Section "A."—NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Bowland Rural is bounded on the north by Settle, east by Skipton Rural, the south by Clitheroe and Clitheroe Rural, and the west by Preston and Lancaster Rural.

Agriculture is the main occupation of the inhabitants. There is one cotton mill and one felt works at Grindleton and one cotton mill at West Bradford.

GENERAL DETAILS OF THE DISTRICT.

Area (acres)	83,327
Population (1931 census)	5,631
Population (1939 census)	5,266
Population (1947 estimated)	4,890
Inhabited Houses... ..	1,474
Rateable Value	£36,313
Sum represented by a penny rate	£146/11/0

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Total	Male	Female
LIVE BIRTHS ...	Legitimate	68	32	36
	Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Total	68	32	36
BIRTH RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ...		Total	Male	Female
				13.90
STILL BIRTHS ...	Legitimate	2	2	—
	Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	Total	Male	Female
				28.57
DEATHS		65	34	31
(After correction by the inward transfer of residents dying outside the district and the outward transfer of non-residents inside the district).				

DEATH RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 13.29

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's short list) :

		Deaths
No. 29 ...	Puerperal Sepsis	Nil
No. 30 ...	Other causes (puerperal)	1

RATES per 1,000 (total live and still births) :

Puerperal Sepsis	Nil
Other causes (puerperal)	14.29

DEATHS OF INFANTS under one year of age :

		Male	Female
Legitimate		2	—
Illegitimate		Nil	Nil
Total		2	—
All infants per 1,000 live births			29.31
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			24.31
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			0

DEATHS from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil
Cancer (all ages)	9

The death rate is 13.29. There is, therefore, a natural increase (excess of births over deaths of population), of 0.61 per 1,000, as against a natural increase (excess of births over deaths) for England and Wales for 1947 of 8.5 per 1,000 population.

Birth Rate.

The birth rate was 13.90 per 1,000 of the population. The birth rate for England and Wales was 20.5, so that we are 6.6 below the average. The present rate shows an increase of 3.91 on last year.

Death Rate.

The total number of deaths in the area of residents and those belonging to the district who have died elsewhere was 65. This is equal to a death rate of 13.29 per 1,000 of population, as compared with 12.29 the previous year, a decrease of 1.0. The annual death rate for England and Wales during 1947 was 12.0. The death rate, therefore, is lower than the average for England and Wales generally by 1.29 per 1,000.

Infantile Mortality.

Death of infants under one year of age :—

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	2	—	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—

The infantile mortality (deaths under 1 year per 1,000 births) in this area is lower than for England and Wales generally, being 29.31 for Bowland, as against 41.00 for England and Wales.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1947.

Diseases	Male	Female
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	—	—
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—
8. Syphilitic Diseases	—	—
9. Influenza	2	—
10. Measles	—	—
11. Ac. Polio-myel. and Polio-enceph.	—	—
12. Ac. inf. enceph.	—	—
13. Cancer of B.cav. and œsoph. (M.) Uterus (F.)	—	—
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	1	1
15. Cancer of breast	—	1
16. Cancer of all other sites	3	3
17. Diabetes	—	—
18. Intracran. vasc. lesions	3	6
19. Heart disease	9	12
20. Other diseases of circ. system	—	1
21. Bronchitis	—	—
22. Pneumonia	—	2
23. Other respiratory diseases	—	1
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	—	—
25. Diarrhœa under 2 years	—	—
26. Appendicitis	—	—
27. Other digestive diseases	1	—
28. Nephritis	4	—
29. Puerperal and Post-abortion. Sepsis	—	—
30. Other maternal causes	—	1
31. Premature birth	—	—
32. Congenital Mal. Birth inj. infant dis.	2	—
33. Suicide	1	—
34. Road traffic accidents	1	—
35. Other violent causes	1	1
36. All other causes	6	2
All causes ...	34	31

PRINCIPAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1947

Based on Registrar-General's Figures

	Bowland Rural District.	Aggregate West Riding Rural Districts.	West Riding Admin. County.	England and Wales (Provisional figures).
BIRTH RATE—				
(per 1,000 estimated population) ..	13.9	21.3	21.5	20.5
DEATH RATES—				
(All per 1,000 estimated population)				
All Causes	13.3	11.0	12.3	12.0
Bymotic Diseases (seven principal)*	0.0	0.16	0.16	**
Tuberculosis of Respiratory				
System	0.0	0.41	0.39	0.47
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ..	0.0	0.11	0.09	0.08
Respiratory Diseases†				
(excluding tuberculosis of respira-				
tory system)	0.61	1.23	1.37	**
Cancer	1.84	1.59	1.80	1.85
Heart and Circulatory Diseases‡ ..	4.50	3.25	3.98	**
INFANT MORTALITY—				
(Deaths under one year per 1,000				
live births)	29	47	45	41
DIARRHOEA—				
(Deaths in infants under 2 years				
of age per 1,000 live births)	0.0	5.74	5.31	5.8
MATERNAL MORTALITY—				
(Deaths of mothers in childbirth				
per 1,000 live and still-births)				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.0	0.11	0.21	0.26
Other Causes	14.29	1.63	1.07	0.91
Total	14.29	1.74	1.28	1.17

* Combined death rate from smallpox (if any), scarlet fever, enteric fever, diphtheria, measles, whooping cough, also diarrhoea in infants under 2 years of age.

† Combined death rate from Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and other Respiratory Diseases, excluding Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System.

‡ Combined death rate from Heart Disease and other Diseases of the circulatory system.

** Figures not available.

Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.

Birth Rates, Civilian Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1947. Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	126 C.B.'s and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Pop. 25,000-50,000 at 1931 Census.	London Admin. County.	Bowland Rural District.
BIRTHS					
Live Births	20.5*	23.3	22.2	22.7	13.90
Still Births	0.50*	0.62	0.54	0.49	0.46
DEATHS					
All Causes	12.0*	13.0	11.9	12.8	13.29
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.00
Diphtheria	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Influenza	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.08	0.46
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00
Measles	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00
NOTIFICATIONS—					
Typhoid fever	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Cerebro-spinal fever	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.00
Scarlet fever	1.37	1.54	1.37	1.31	
Whooping Cough	2.22	2.41	2.02	2.80	
Diphtheria	0.13	0.15	0.14	0.14	0.00
Erysipelas	0.19	0.21	0.18	0.22	
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Measles	9.41	9.13	9.58	5.29	0.00
Pneumonia	0.79	0.89	0.68	0.64	

A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths.

* Rates per 1,000 total population.

The year, as a whole, was a healthy one, there being no specially noteworthy cause of sickness apart from an epidemic of measles (40 cases) and a slight outbreak of whooping cough (11 cases). There were no deaths from either of these diseases.

Fortunately, the district was not involved in the outbreak of Infantile Paralysis which occurred throughout the country generally in the latter part of the year.

Section "B."—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Public Health Officers.

Medical Officer of Health J. H. FAIRWEATHER,
M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Sanitary Inspector E. J. BANNER, A.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E.
Acting Surveyor E. BERRY

Preventive Medical Service.

Representatives from Bowland, Settle and Sedbergh rural districts were appointed to confer with representatives of the West Riding County Council to consider the appointment of a full-time Medical Officer.

Nursing in the Home.

As detailed in the 1942 report.

Laboratory Facilities.

As detailed in the 1942 report.

Legislation in Force (Adoptive Acts).

As detailed in the 1942 report.

Hospitals.

As detailed in the 1942 report.

Ambulance Facilities.

The Council continued to make use of the ambulance of Messrs. Tomlinson's, of Clitheroe, on the rare occasions when this was necessary for civil non-infectious cases.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

As indicated in 1942 report.

The maternity and child welfare centre at St. Helen's School, Waddington, under the auspices of the County Council, continued to function, and was well attended and appreciated.

Transport is difficult owing to the scattered nature of the area, but help is given by the District Nurses with their cars, and a few other people.

There is need for a similar centre at Gisburn.

Health Education.

In collaboration with the Central Council for Health Education and the West Riding Education Committee, a series of health films were shown to scholars in the following schools : Gisburn, Grindleton, Slaidburn, Bolton-by-Bowland and Bashall Eaves, and short talks on health subjects were also given by local medical practitioners. Copies of health education literature were also distributed. It is proposed to cover the remaining schools in the district during 1948 with a follow up of health literature.

As stressed by Lord Woolton and others, this subject is one of great importance with the present emphasis on preventing illness and increasing national efficiency.

A series of adult films were also shown in the following villages : Bashall Eaves, Gisburn, Slaidburn, Grindleton, Bolton-by-Bowland, and good attendances were recorded. During the course local medical practitioners gave a health talk and health literature was available. It is proposed to visit other villages during 1948.

Section "C."—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

These are dealt with for the most part in the report of the Sanitary Inspector appended.

Inspection of Area.

Total Number of Inspections made for nuisances only	...	...	73
Number of nuisances found after inspection	...	...	32
Number of nuisances in hand at the end of 1946	...	...	5
Number of nuisances abated	...	...	36
Number of informal notices served	...	...	15
Number of informal notices complied with	...	...	15
Number of statutory notices served	...	...	7
Number of statutory notices complied with	...	...	7
Number of Summonses or other legal proceedings	...	...	Nil

Water Supplies.

The following actions were taken and resolutions passed by the Council during the year.

It was resolved that the owners' attention be called to the defective fencing round the private reservoir at Bolton-by-Bowland. This fencing was repaired.

It was decided to call the owners' attention to fencing required at the private reservoir at Bashall Eaves, in order to prevent cattle gaining access to the inlet gully.

A shortage of water was experienced at various times at the top of Grindleton Brow due to bursts in service pipes.

The Council decided that negotiations be opened for the taking over of the private water mains at Sawley.

The private reservoir supplying Bolton-by-Bowland village had been cleaned out.

The Council laid a main for supplying Eaves Hall from the Waddington Supply.

Consideration was given to a report prepared by the Consulting Engineer upon the taking over of the Gisburn private water undertaking.

Consideration was also given to a report prepared by the Consulting Engineer upon water supplies in the Bowland and Clitheroe areas, with a suggestion that a joint working party be formed between the authorities.

Waddington Water Committee were asked to state terms under which they were prepared to transfer their undertaking to the Council.

A Bill presented to Parliament by the Preston Corporation for taking water from Langden and Haredon streams was approved in principle, but the County Council secured an amendment, the effect of which would be to ensure a minimum flow of three million gallons of water in the streams at all times.

Special attention should be given to the position at Grindleton in view of developments proposed by the County Education Committee at Riversmede.

Other details upon water supplies are contained in the Sanitary Inspector's report.

Sewerage.

No change of any importance has taken place under this heading.

The Council's attention was drawn to the erosion of the river banks near the Grindleton works, and the Council decided to seek the advice of a Consulting Engineer.

The erosion of a portion of the river bank near the Bolton-by-Bowland works has been stopped by the provision of a groyne.

Scavenging.

The collection of refuse was extended to cover the parishes of Mitton and Bashall Eaves.

The Council decided that the collection of refuse by hired haulage should cease and the work carried out by their own vehicles.

New fencing was provided at several of the refuse tips.

A report was considered upon the existing scavenging arrangements, and to the extension of the service in areas in which collection was already undertaken.

Schools.

All the schools in the district have been inspected and found for the most part clean.

Smoke Abatement.

No action necessary.

Shops and Offices.

No infringement of the Shops Act, 1936, was detected.

Rivers and Streams.

No complaints of pollution from the West Riding Rivers Board were received.

Mortuary.

As stressed in my previous reports, the provision of a Mortuary is urgently required, and this matter calls for special consideration.

Factories Act.

See Sanitary Inspector's report.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1947.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your consideration my annual report for the year 1947.

Notices—Public Health and Housing Acts.

Statutory Notices served	12
Statutory Notices complied with	10
Informal Notices served	42
Informal Notices complied with	39

Notifiable Diseases and Disinfections.

Eighteen visits were made in connection with notifiable diseases and twelve rooms were disinfected.

Two cottages were found to be infested with insects and were sprayed with insecticide.

Public Health Nuisances.

Seventy-three inspections were carried out for nuisances under the Public Health Act, and 36 nuisances were abated.

Seven statutory notices were served for the abatement of nuisances.

Offensive Trades.

Gut-scraping has been carried on at the C.W.S. premises at Mitton; 37 inspections were carried out, and the premises were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Wood Huts and Caravans.

There is a total of 39 wood huts and five caravans in the area, the structures being occupied at week-ends and for short periods in the summer months.

Forty-seven inspections were carried out, and the premises were found to be in a sanitary condition.

There has been very little increase in the numbers of these dwellings.

There are no scheduled camping sites in the area.

Rivers and Streams.

These are inspected by the West Riding Rivers Board and no complaints of pollution were received.

Bakehouses.

There are three bakehouses in the area which continued to be kept in a clean condition. Seventeen inspections were carried out.

Shops Act, 1934.

Thirty-nine inspections were carried out under sections 10 and 13 of this Act, but no action was necessary in connection with light, ventilation and sanitary conveniences.

Common Lodging Houses, Canal Boats and Knackers' Yards.

There are none of the above in the district.

Water Supplies.

There are 11 private piped supplies and 5 Council piped supplies in the area which are for the chief centres of community. Isolated cottages and farms are supplied from individual springs.

All the piped supplies have been regularly inspected and the following samples have been taken for bacteriological examination:—

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Bashall Eaves (Private)	1	2
Bolton-by-Bowland (Private)	1	1
Dunsop Bridge (Private)	1	—
Gisburn (Private)	3	2
Grindleton (Council)	1	—
Holden (Private)	1	—
Horton (Private)	1	—
Mitton (Private)	2	—
Newton (Council)	1	—
Rimington (Council)	1	—
Sawley (Council)	1	—
Slaidburn (Private)	1	1
Tosside (Council)	—	1
Waddington (Private)	2	—
West Bradford (No. 1, Private)	1	—
West Bradford (No. 2, Private)	4	4
Individual Private Supplies	10	4
Total ...	32	15

A number of samples included in the individual private supplies were taken for farmers who had applied to the County Agricultural Executive Committee for a grant to improve their existing supplies.

During the long period of dry weather in the autumn of the year nearly all the private supplies were restricted, and the parishes of Paythorne and Gisburn Forest were completely without water for a period.

All the Council's supplies continued satisfactory, with the exception of Tosside, which was showing signs of decreasing towards the end of the period.

It was necessary to cart water to Paythorne and Bolton-by-Bowland schools for a period of ten days.

The supply of water to consumers in Bashall Eaves was considerably improved by the laying of a new length of main from the private reservoir.

The Council's Consulting Engineer prepared a report upon the taking over of the Gisburn private supply, but in view of the number of unsatisfactory samples this matter was deferred.

Complaints were received regarding the colour of water drawn at various times from the private main at Mitton, but analyses determined the water to be satisfactory.

Housing, Drainage and Closet Accommodation.

Four hundred and eighty-eight inspections were made at all classes of dwelling-houses. Repairs and alterations were carried out at 32 houses and three cottages were re-constructed.

Five statutory notices were served under the Housing Act, and in one case it was necessary for the Council to carry out the works themselves.

Drainage was re-constructed at six houses and repaired at five houses. Choked drains were released at 14 houses.

Five new septic tanks were constructed and three re-constructed. Four pail closets were abolished and four new water closets provided.

The housing survey as required by the Ministry of Health has been completed on the lines as recommended in the Third Report of the Rural Housing Sub-Committee, and during the year 421 houses were inspected.

These houses have been classified according to the standard of accommodation and state of repair, and are recorded in the following categories :

1. Houses fit for habitation or with minor defects	...	...	597
2. Houses requiring repairs or alterations	...	...	247
3. Houses requiring re-conditioning	...	...	47
4. Houses requiring demolition and replacement	...	...	1

In addition to the number of houses inspected for the housing survey 67 farm houses have also been examined to ascertain whether they were below an adequate standard, and interviews and letters to owners have resulted in essential repairs being carried out at 14 houses.

A loft in a barn at Gisburn was occupied for a short time by two men engaged on farm work. The structural conditions and facilities available made the premises entirely unsuitable for human habitation, and after a few visits the building was vacated without statutory action being necessary.

A cottage at Rimington was found to be in a very dirty condition and it was necessary to serve a statutory notice for the premises to be cleansed.

A number of complaints were received regarding the discharge of sewage on to farm land adjoining Back Lane, Rimington. After the service of statutory notices on the owners of six houses, two large septic tanks were re-constructed which resulted in a considerable improvement of effluent discharged.

A case of overcrowding was investigated at Dunsop Bridge which resulted in one family being moved to an empty house at Newton. Various other cases of overcrowding exist in the district which will require consideration under the Council's housing programme.

Cowsheds, Dairies, and Milk Supply.

Six hundred and fifty-one inspections have been carried out of cowsheds and dairies and, generally, the buildings have been kept in a satisfactory condition.

Three new cowsheds and five new dairies were constructed and 12 cowsheds and seven dairies re-constructed. Various repairs have been carried out at sixteen cowsheds.

A number of alterations and repairs have been necessary in order that producers can change over from ordinary milk to designated milk production, but, generally, farmers have shown a desire for conditions that allow improved methods and greater cleanliness.

In order to draw producers' attention to their responsibilities to whitewash or disinfect the interior of cowsheds twice a year, an advertisement was inserted in the local Press.

It was necessary on certain occasions to draw the attention of a dairy firm who collect bottled milk in this district to the dirty condition of bottles and crates.

Practically all milk produced in the area goes to collecting depots in adjacent districts, and in two instances it was necessary to investigate complaints that the milk was not up to the required standard.

Milk is produced for wholesale distribution at 376 farms, and ten applications were received during the year from farmers for registration as wholesale producers. Forty-two retail traders are registered.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.

During the year five licences were granted by the County Council for the production of "Accredited" milk and 14 licences for the production of "Tuberculin Tested" milk.

The total number of designated milk licences issued to producers in the area is 99, viz. :—"Accredited" 55 and "Tuberculin Tested" 44. These licences are for the wholesale production of milk and nine additional licences are also in force for bottling at the place of production. One dealer's licence was also issued.

There are no licences in force for bottling designated milk other than at the place of production, and there are no pasteurising plants in the district.

I have received copies of the examinations of designated milks from the County Laboratory which show that out of 79 samples taken 43 satisfied the prescribed tests.

Wherever possible schools are supplied with "Tuberculin Tested" or Pasteurised milk and the examination of these milks showed that out of 24 samples taken 21 satisfied the prescribed tests.

Food Supply, Slaughter-houses, and Meat.

Slaughtering was only permitted by the Ministry of Food at one slaughter-house, with the exception of casualties. Seventy-eight visits were made and 174 visits to butchers' shops.

Meat is sent into the district from Skipton and Clitheroe distribution centres; there are no meat stalls, but butchers take meat round the district in covered vans.

The number of carcasses, including offals, examined were :—Beef, 439 quarters; Sheep, 423; Pigs, 663.

Total weight surrendered as unfit for human consumption :—12 cwt. 1 qtr.

Percentage of number of animals inspected affected with

Tuberculosis...	2.03%
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Percentage of number of animals inspected affected with	
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diseases other than Tuberculosis ...	.33%
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Food Production Premises.

Sixty-seven inspections were made at food production premises, which were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Two premises are registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the sale of ice-cream and 11 premises are registered for the preparation of preserved foods.

The inspection of food at shops and food production premises revealed that 40-lbs. Butter and 416 tins Canned Meat were unfit and destroyed.

Factories Act.

There are 31 registered premises, and no complaints have been received from H.M. Inspector of Factories; 22 inspections have been made.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There is one privately owned swimming pool in the area, but this was not in use during the year.

Destruction of Rats.

A part time rat catcher has been regularly employed on the refuse tips and sewage works. Infestations in this area exist chiefly on agricultural land and are dealt with by the County Agricultural Committee.

In conclusion, I desire to express to the Council my appreciation of their support and consideration that I have received in the execution of my various duties.

Yours obediently,

E. J. BANNER, A.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E.

Section "D."—HOUSING.

Two Swedish timber houses have been erected at Dunsop Bridge.

Application has been made to the Ministry of Health for the allocation of six "Airey" type houses.

Negotiations were opened for securing sites at Grindleton, Sawley, Gisburn and Rimington.

Apart from the above mentioned matters very little progress has been made upon the provision of new houses, and this question should receive the urgent consideration of the Council.

For other details under this heading see Sanitary Inspector's report.

Section "E."—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

See Sanitary Inspector's report.

Raw and dried milk were available at reduced cost for infants, expectant and nursing mothers.

Orange juice and cod liver oil was distributed to expectant mothers and infants through the District Nurses.

Consideration was given to the production of Tuberculin Tested milk as requested by the West Riding County Council, and there are now 44 licensed Tuberculin Tested milk farms in the district. The Bowland area is regarded as having some of the best type designated milk farms in the West Riding.

During the year several producers commenced bottling Tuberculin Tested milk on behalf of a dairy in Lancashire, the milk being then retailed in its raw state. Practically all the milk supplied to schools in the district is either Tuberculin Tested or Pasteurised.

Some concern has been felt about the heavier incidence of tubercular affections in all the rural districts throughout England and Wales in general compared with the amount in towns where, as a rule, the milk consumed has been heat-treated. However, recent announcements in the House of Lords indicate that this matter is receiving attention and in a letter sent to me by the Ministry of Food it was stated that it is the policy of the Government to provide germ-free milk, and that the necessary legislation is expected to be introduced at any time now.

The Ministry of Food in their letter also refer to the following recommendations of the report of the Committee on Milk Distribution :—

1. As an ultimate objective, the compulsory heat treatment of all milk sold for liquid consumption, except milk sold in remote and thinly populated areas.
2. Until compulsory heat treatment can be applied generally, raw Tuberculin Tested milk should be permitted to be sold in any area.

It is gratifying to all concerned that this important matter is about to receive attention at the highest levels to the advantage of all milk consumers, and especially children.

Section "F."—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of cases of notifiable infectious diseases (excluding tuberculosis) reported during the year.

Disease.	No. of Patients.		Sex and Age.
Pneumonia	2	...	M. 77; F. 6.
(Primary Lobar)			
Scarlet Fever	6	...	M. 45, 4; F. 14, 21, 7, 6.
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	1	...	M. 57.
Measles	40	...	See below.
Whooping Cough	11	...	See below.

The age groups of the 40 cases of measles and the 11 cases of whooping cough are as follows :—

	Measles.		Whooping Cough.	
Under 1 year	Nil	...	...	Nil
1—2	7	...	...	3
2—3	5	...	...	2
3—4	2	...	...	2
4—5	5	...	...	1
5—10	13	...	...	3
10—15	2	...	...	Nil
15—20	2	...	...	Nil
20—30	3	...	...	Nil
30—40	1	...	...	Nil

Two cases of Scarlet Fever were removed to Harden Bridge Infectious Disease Hospital and one case of Cerebro-Spinal Fever to Blackburn Isolation Hospital.

The number of cases of Measles and Whooping Cough notified in 1946 was 33 and one.

Venereal Disease.

The number of cases is known to be small, and there is no evidence of increase. No publicity campaign was thought necessary.

Tuberculosis.

New cases and mortality during 1947 :—

Number of Primary Notifications received from Medical Practitioners
on Form "A" 4
Un-notified cases (obtained from death returns)... .. Nil
The notification of Tuberculosis was therefore satisfactorily carried out.

LOCATION OF DISEASE.

	Male.	Female.	Age.	Total.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	Nil	37	1
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	1	—	12	1
		1	38	1
		1	2	1

OCCUPATION OF PATIENTS.

Pulmonary, Male—Civil Engineer; Non-Pulmonary, Male—Scholar.
Non-Pulmonary, Females—Housewife and child.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, and Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172 :—No action necessary.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation.
Age and date of final injection :—

	Under 5.	5—14.	Total.
January to June	41	16	57
July to December	37	15	52
	78	31	109

It is computed that over 75 per cent. of the children under five in the district have been protected against diphtheria and that over 85 per cent. of the children between five and fifteen have been protected. These figures compare very favourably with that of 50 per cent. for many of our large towns, and it is gratifying to note that there have been no cases of diphtheria notified during the year.

During the year the Ministry of Health stressed the importance of a final "boosting" dose of prophylactic being given at five years in cases of children immunised in infancy, and steps should be taken to give effect to this recommendation.

The future aim should be to secure the immunisation of as many children as possible early at eight to twelve months. This will probably be best secured by using for the most part the family practitioner service which was introduced during the year under arrangement with the County Medical Officer of Health. The Health Visitor has records of all births, and as each child reaches one year the health visitor forwards a letter from the Medical Officer explaining and urging immunisation and enclosing a reply post card to the family doctor requesting him to immunise the child at his surgery or when he is on his round. If no word is received from the doctor that the offer has been accepted, the health visitor sends a further letter from the Medical Officer stressing the importance of the procedure.

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